GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1342
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2000
IRREGULARITIES AND ECONOMIC OFFENCES
INDRAJIT GUPTA

Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations regarding large scale irregularities and serious types of economic offences concerning the Directorate of Printing;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken on such representations?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT & POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a)to(c): The various issues concerning the Directorate of Printing received through representations have been attended to an appropriate replies have been given to the concerned representationists. The relevant details are given in the enclosed Annexure.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1342 FOR 1.8.2000.

(1) MAINTENANCE OF PHOTOTYPE SETTING SYSTEM-6:

Annual Maintenance Contracts for the Phototype Setting System- 6 in the Govt. of India Press, Minto Road has tobe awarded as there is no in-house facilities to maintain the said system. Open tenders were called for every year which were advertised in the Newspaper and Indian Trade Journal.A number of firms responded. Technical suitability of the firms were examined by the Purchase Committee/Technical Committee/Committee of Managers. M/s APM Sales Corporation was found to be technical most suitable for maintaining the said system. On the basis of technical advice the Annual Maintenance Contracts with M/s APM Sales Corporation were finalized. The said system consists of 100 terminals, 3 Phototype Setting Units, 3 Processor Units, 2 Laser Printers all of which are to be network of Central Processing Unit (CPU).All these equipment are in running condition and provide full output of the jobs executed in them.

(2) PROCUREMENT OF PAPER:

The Dte. of Printing procures printing paper on the basis of average consumption during the previous three years, also keeping in mind the necessity for maintaining stocks for eight month`s requirement. Paper is procured with the approval of the competent authority. It is procured against DGS&DRate Contract if it is as per requirements. In case of urgency or if the required specifications do not match with the DGS&DRate Contract, open tenders are invited. Delivery is effected by the firms only after pre-dispatch inspection by the DGS&D. Consigneeshave the right of rejection if any store is found to be deficient in specifications, etc. vis-a-vis Acceptance of Tender or supply order specifications within stipulated time limit. There is no question of accepting poor quality consignment and all post purchase cases are subject to Audit.

(3) NO OBJECTION CERTIFICATES:

A very small portion of specialized jobs which cannot be executed by the Govt. of India Presses are allowed to be printed through private presses by grant of No Objection Certificates. The number of NOCs issued to variousGovernment Departments constitute about 1% of the total job received for printing in the various Govt. of India Presses during the period from January,1994 to December, 1999.

(4) SYSTEM 272:

The system 272 of Monotype U.K.was purchased in the year 1983. It has become obsolete and declared unserviceable on 8.4.1994 due to non-availability of spare parts and change in the printing technology.

(5) ENVELOPE MAKING MACHINES:

Two Envelope Making Machines and other accessorieswere purchased through the DGS&D.The machines remain idle for some time due to non-installation/non-commissioning by the authorized representatives. Subsequently, these machines were installed and are now in productive use in the Govt. of India Presses at Aligarhand Nasik. However, the case regarding procurement of these machines has been referred to the Central Bureau of Investigation for investigation.

(6) MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT WERE PURCHASED IN THE YEAR 1988-89 AT GOVT. OF INDIA PRESS, MINTO ROAD:

The Machinery and equipment were purchased in the year 1988-89 for modernization of Govt. of India Press, Minto Road, which caters to the requirement of Parliament. The equipment installed are working satisfactorily and the jobs of both the Houses of Parliament and other Departments/Ministry are being executed, in this press.

(7) DIGITEK PTS UNIT AND ADAST DOMINENT 725-P MACHINES:

These machines were installed in the Govt. of India Press (Letter Press Unit), Faridabad. The Digitek PTS Unit was installed in the year 1990 and had been in productive use. However, in the year 1996 Laser Printer of the Unit developed faults which could not be repaired due to non-availability of spare parts inspite of best efforts. Besides, the Red Light Sensitive Resin Coated (RC) paper required to take output from the system was available in the market at the time of installation of the machinery but subsequently the manufacturer stopped its manufacture. As the System could not take any other sensitive paper it could not be utilized any further. The Adast Dominant 725-P two colour perfecting offset printing machine was installed in 1992 and has been in productive use.

(8) 4 NOs. MILLER GERMANY OFFSET MACHINES:

These machines were purchased in the year 1987 and are in use for day to day production of Parliament papers and other jobs of Ministries/Departments. There is no proposal to replace them as they are giving satisfactory production. They are not lying in a state of semi-idleness and are being run in two shifts.

(9) PRINTING OF JPC REPORT THROUGH P.S. PRESS SERVICES, OKHLA, NEW DELHI:

Printing of the Joint Parliamentary Committee was neither entrusted to the Directorate of Printing nor this Ministry has any knowledge about its printing through a private press.

(10) ALLOTMENT OF PRESS POOL ACCOMMODATION TO THE JOINT DIRECTOR (ADMN.) IN THE DIRECTORA PRINTING:

The allotment of Type D Press Pool accommodation to the Officer was made with the approval of the competent authority on 15.1.1997 after following the relevant rules/procedures. At the time of allotment it was found that out of ten Type D qyarters placed at the disposal of the Headquarters Office of the Directorate of Printing from the Govt. of India Press, Minto Road, four were lying vacant. Therefore, one such vacant quarter was allotted to the said Officer as he was eligible for such class/type of accommodation. It was with the condition that he would have to vacate the same when required by any other eligible officer posted in the Headquarters Office of the Directorate of Printing.

(11) COMPLAINT OF WIDOW OF DECEASED EMPLOYEES OF GOVT. OF INDIA PRESS, MINTO ROAD, NEW DELHI:

Smt. Rita Rani widow of deceased employee of Govt. of India Press, Minto Road filed a complaint/affidavit against the Joint Director (Admn.) in the Dte. of Printing. Certain Police Officials from the Tughlak Road Police Station, New Delhi came to him for obtaining his version. The Joint Director (Admn.) claimed that the affidavit was totally false. The matter was inquired into by the concerned Police Authorities who found that no cognizable offence was made out. Therefore, the said complaints/affidavit of Smt. Rita Rani was filed accordingly as per law by the Police Authorities. Information/replies to Parliament Questions and representations received on the subject have been based on the report received from the Station House Officer, Tughlak Road Police Station vide communication No.3091 SHO/T-Rd dated 25.11.1999 and there is no question of fabrication/manipulation in this regarde.

(12) TRANSFER OF ASSTT. MANAGER (ADMN.) FROM GOVT. OF INDIA PRESS, MINTO ROAD:

The concerned Asstt. Manager (Admn.) in the Govt. of India Press, Minto Road took up charge with effect from 16.3.1999. He has been charge sheeted under rule 14 of the CCS (CCA) Rules on 1.5.2000 for his involvement in a fabricated Transfer Travelling Allowance Claim during his tenure in Govt. of India Press, Faridabad. He has to discharge the normal functions of Asstt. Manager (Admn.) irrespective of his place of posting. He is neither the disciplinary authority nor the vigilance officer in the Govt. of India Press, Minto Road. Moreover, his charge sheet pertains to his actions during his tenure in Govt. of India Press, Faridabad. Therefore, it may not be advisable to pre-judge and prejudice the entire proceedings by transferring him at this stage on the grounds of a pending disciplinary case. As regards, invoolvement in the matter of subletting the press pool accommodation the concerned officer has denied his involvement and also declined any allegations about receiving commission.

(13) POSTING OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR (VIGILANCE) IN THE DIRECTORATE OF PRINTING:

There are no specific instructions regarding posting of subordinate officers/staff in the Vigilance Unit of the Attached/Subordinate Offices. The Vigilance Manual provides that Vigilance Officer in the Attached/ Subordinate Offices will be appointed in consultation with the Chief Vigilance Officer in the respective Ministry/Department. The concerned officer was not acting as the Vigilance Officer in the Directorate of Printing, which is an attached office under the Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation. Moreover, there was no charge of lack of integrity or moral turpitude against the said officer. Therefore, the appointment/continuation in the pst of Deputy Director (Vigilance) in the Directorate of Printing do not appear to be in violation of the norms of the Central Vigilance Commission. However, the said officer has since been transferred from the post of Deputy Director (Vigilance).